

Grant for Purchase of Nathaniel Winsor House

Rep. Francis Marini (R-Hanson), Senator Robert Hedlund (R-Weymouth), U.S. Congressman William Delahunt, and Secretary of the Commonwealth William Galvin, who is also the chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, have announced that the Duxbury Rural & Historical Society has been awarded a \$140,000 grant from the Mass. Preservation Projects Fund. The grant will be applied toward the repair,

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restoration and acquisition of the Nathaniel Winsor House on Washington St. The house, listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing property in the Old Shipbuilder's Historic District, was built in 1807 by a maritime merchant and is considered an excellent example of Federal period architecture. The DR&HS determined last year that the Winsor property would be best preserved if purchased by the Society, and after a lot of hard work and determination the group raised \$500,000 toward the purchase of the property.

"I was happy to have the opportunity to support this grant when it was being reviewed by the Historical Commission," said Rep. Marini. "The preservation of the Nathaniel Winsor House will benefit the citizens of Duxbury, as well as the Commonwealth, for many generations to come. Given the history associated with the property, and the benefits of education and perspective that the house can offer, I believe that this money has been very well spent."

Senator Hedlund said his office worked with Secretary Galvin's office and the DR&HS to overcome early financial obstacles, and he is happy to see that the Mass. Historical Commission recognized the value of this project and the tremendous fundraising success of the Society.

Secretary Galvin said, "A local community's heritage is very important to the citizens who live there. Preserving this heritage and the buildings which have played a significant role in a community's history, is a task which faces every city and town in the Commonwealth. Therefore, I am extremely pleased that my office will be able to assist local communities through funding 98 local projects, representing a total of \$7,600,000 in state monies. We are further pleased to assist in saving these local treasures for future generations to enjoy."

The Mass. Preservation Projects Fund was designed to benefit State Register properties in public and non-profit use. It is a matching grant program for up to 50% of the total project cost; however, a unique feature of the program allows applicants to request up to 75% of total construction costs, provided they establish an endowment fund for the long-term maintenance of the grant assisted property.